



District 5610//Gearing Up

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP // CONTACT INFO //

DG // NANCY MOOSE, MADISON, SD // Nancy.Moose@dso.edu

DGE // LINDA PETERSON, RAPID CITY, SD // linda4rotary@me.com

DGN // STEVE SIKORSKI // SIOUX FALLS, SD // sdsikorski@msn.com

TREASURER // GEORGE TWITERO, RAPID CITY, SD // gtwitero@msn.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR // LAURA GOETTSCH // goettschlaura@gmail.com

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SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE SPECIAL, 2013



DG Nancy's Message

Hello District 5610 Rotarians,

Over and over during our visits to clubs around the District I keep hearing about the good work of Rotary. Every time

I listen to a Board talk about what they do in the community and around the world, I feel blessed to be a Rotarian in District 5610. The interesting thing, however, is that nearly every group starts by saying that they don't do as much as they should be doing, but by the time I finish writing down what the club is accomplishing, I have a long list of achievements.

Clubs have Projects!

For example, our clubs do a great deal with the Back Pack programs. Some clubs primarily provide financial support while others physically pack food into the Back Packs every week during the school year. In addition to feeding children, Rotarians provide opportunities for children to enjoy themselves at Storybook Island and the Children's Museum. Most clubs provide scholarships so that students in their area have help with their

post-secondary education expenses. Some clubs work directly with schools to aid students who may need winter clothing, shoes, or other items that their families are unable to provide. Safety is a concern to Rotarians: lots of bicycle helmets are distributed around the District. In conjunction with the helmet distribution, bicycle safety classes are often included in the helmet project. Building everything from wheelchair ramps to city parks can be found on clubs' lists of projects. Rotarians are planters, too; flowers and trees are beautifying many of the District 5610 communities. Timeliness is important to Rotarians, judging by the Rotary clocks I've seen. Continuing to support all those projects year after year is also part of the clubs' commitments. Seeing Rotary wheels all over the District makes it clear that Rotary is involved.

...and more Projects—Internationally!

But more than the community projects, District 5610 is also involved internationally—in places that are not visible to us. People in Honduras are getting clean water; disaster victims are getting shelter boxes, Haitians can cook hot meals with a solar oven, people with disabilities in Romania, Vietnam, and Guatemala are more mobile because of wheelchairs.

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D5610 District Conference Special

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Rotarians in our district truly *Engage Rotary and Change Lives*. Service above self isn't just a phrase in our district. We are actively serving.

Celebrate our Accomplishments!

It is my hope that you all can attend the District Conference in Madison, SD, as we celebrate the accomplishments of our clubs this past year and as we continue to carry out projects this coming year.

The Conference officially begins at 1pm on Friday, September 13, at Camp Lakodia (45156 235th St, Madison, SD 57042). We have **George Lewis, the Waterman** (check him out on the Web!), coming to speak to us as well as **Greg Podd**, one of Rotary International's Director-Elects. Our Ambassadorial Scholar, **Cecily Engelhart**, along with the Peace Scholar, **Muyatwa Sitali**, whom we help support, will be talking to us about their experiences. We will hear about projects our clubs are doing; a representative from the **New Generations Club in Boulder, CO**, will tell us about the International project they are working on in Peru and inviting us to participate; we will see a demonstration of a **new website** the District is considering; our **4-Way Test Essay winner** will read her essay to us. Visiting with other Rotarians around the District and sharing our Rotary moments makes attending the conference even if we didn't do anything else. However, we are Rotarians: we do lots of things!

As you go about your activities, remember to ask others to join Rotary. Remember Rotary International President Ron Burton's message: *"Why should we deny service opportunities to others, even as we need their help with the vast amount of work to be done?"*

— *Nancy Moose, DG*



District Calendar and Newsletter needs your events and photos! Especially District conference stories and photos!

Please send your club events/notices for the coming year, to Laura, Nancy, or Linda Peterson, for listing on the newsletter and website event listing! Send conference stories to Linda for October news.

—*Linda Peterson, Newsletter Editor* linda4rotary@me.com

Laura Goettsch, District Executive Director, Website Editor
PO Box 343, Denison, IA 51442
Cell: 712-269-6447 goettschlaura@gmail.com



D5610 District Conference Alerts!

Come to Madison! **Attend the District 5610 Conference** **September 13–14, 2013**

Held at Camp Lakodia, Prairie Village, the Tunheim Classroom Building on the DSU Campus & Dakota Prairie Playhouse Camp Lakodia, 45156 235th St, Madison, SD 57042, Prairie Village is on Hwy 34, just west of Madison. The Tunheim Classroom Building is in the southwest corner of the DSU campus

Top Ten Reasons to Attend the District Conference:

10. Hear interesting, motivational speakers
9. Learn more about why you're a member of Rotary
8. Watch the videos promoting Rotary made by the clubs of District 5610
7. Listen to the blue grass band at Prairie Village
6. Find out what other clubs in the District are doing
5. Watch the best of the Madison club's funny videos (copies are available)
4. Take advantage of free registration and meals for District Rotarians
3. Ride the horse-drawn wagon at Prairie Village
2. Socialize in the hospitality room at AmericInn



And the number one reason to attend the Conference:

1. **Celebrate with Rotarians in the best Rotary District in the world!**

Conference registration and meals are free to Rotarians, but we need your registration!

For more information and to register online (yes, it works!):

www.rotary5610.org

Room reservations at AmericInn 605.256.3076 or Super 8 605.256.6931

Reserve by August 11 for room availability and the group rate.

Reports needed for District Assembly:

AGs: Please prepare a year-end update, due to Nancy or Laura by September 6.

District Committee Chairs: Please prepare a year-end update, due to Nancy or Laura by September 6.

Club Presidents & Secretary/Treasurers: Your **club video** is overdue! Specs: a raw video file from your smart phone or video camera, between 30-60 seconds long, can be funny, serious, images of members, images of projects, etc. Send to Laura at goettschlaura@gmail.com

AND Please bring your members to the District Conference! Take photos, tell us your Rotary moment! Casual dress, business casual for the banquet.

District Website: A discussion will be held concerning the District website, which is currently not being maintained. Please review the information about ClubRunner at www.clubrunner.ca as we will be discussing converting to this software. Many other Rotary Districts and clubs already use this very useful database. Clubs have the option of using their own Clubrunner software, or adding data to the District data, but cannot use the District Clubrunner site for their own club. The cost is within our current budget.

